

## Message Text

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15

ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ADP-00 FBO-01 DODE-00 SSO-00 L-03 INR-10

INRE-00 CIAE-00 /031 W

----- 099082

O 180835 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8067

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4283

FOR: FBO; A/ SY/ FO, A/ SY/ NSU, EUR/ EX, EUR/ SOV; ALSO PASS  
INFO TO CHIEF OF STAFF, AIRFORCE AF/ INSD, DIA ( AA-4, DS-6)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, ASEC, UR

SUBJ: REPAIRS TO CHANCERY FACADE

REF: STATE 034177; MOSCOW 1718 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY. UPDK AND MOSSOVIET HAVE GIVEN EMBASSY THEIR  
PROPOSAL TO BEGIN FACADE REPAIRS APRIL 20. SEABEE BROWN,  
FBO FRITZ AND ALL EMBASSY ELEMENTS HAVE MET AND AGREED ON  
WORKPLAN. REQUEST APPROVAL TO BEGIN PROJECT, AND SEABEES,  
MARINES AND FUNDS TO PROCEED.

2. WITH ARRIVAL OF SEABEE BUC BROWN AND FBO FRITZAN ALL  
ELEMENTS OF EMBASSY CONCERNED WITH LONGSTANDING NEED TO  
REPAIR FACADE MET APRIL 17 TO REVIEW SOVIET WORKPLAN  
PROPOSED BY MOSSOVIET AND UPDK ON APRIL 13.

3. FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT FACTS CONTAINED IN ORAL  
PRESENTATION FROM SOVIET SIDE ( ON WHICH EMBASSY OFFERED NO  
DISCUSSION AS DRECTED IN PARA 4 DEPTTEL 023239):

A. APRIL 20 - SOVIETS BEGIN ERECTING SCAFFOLDING ON  
WEST SIDE OF NORTH WING WITH WORK PROGRESSING AROUND  
NORTH FACE TO EAST ( STREET) SIDE OF NORTH WING.

B. 15 JUNE - WORK INCLUDING SCRAPING, REPAIR OF  
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CRACKS, SURFACE SEACING, AND PAINTING COMPLETED ON NORTH WING.

C. 15 JUNE - BEGIN SCAFFOLDING STREET SIDE CENTRAL WING AND COMPLETING JOB BY 30 JUNE.

D. 30 JUNE SOVIETS BEGIN MAIN FACADE REPAIR JOB ( SCRAPING THROUGH PAINTING). IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN TIME REQUIRED TO COMPLETE JOB AND EMBR4. THE PRESS THE SAME DAY REPORTED THE LEADER OF THE ANTI- CHOGYAL SIKKIM JOINT ACTION COMMITTEE AS CLAIM- ING THAT THE RULING FAMILY HAD TRIED TO PRESSURE INDIA THROUGH THE US. HE ALLEGEDLY ASKED THE GOI TO DENY " INNER- LINE" PERMITS TO ENTER SIKKIM TO FOREIGNERS AND " ESPECIALLY AMERICANS." NO INDIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL HAS EVEN HINTED AT ANY US INVOLVEMENT BUT PRESUMABLY THE GOI IS WELL AWARE OF THE GYALMO' S EFFORTS FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO SPREAD THE SPIRIT OF SIKKIMESE NATIONALISM AMONG AMERICAN VISITORS TO SIKKIM AND ON HER TRIPS BACK TO THE US.

5. AS WE HAVE OBSERVED BEFORE, THE PROBLEM OF NEPALESE MAJORITY/ LEPCHA- BHUTIA- TIBETAN MINORITY RELATIONS IN SIKKIM IS A REAL ONE WHICH WILL NOT GO AWAY EVEN WITH GREATER INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE INVOLVEMENT IN GANGTOK. SIKKIM WILL CONTINUE TO BE A HEADACHE FOR WE GOI.  
PALMER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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